

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S3123–S3321

Measures Introduced: Twenty-one bills were introduced, as follows: S. 606–626. **Page S3163**

Measures Passed:

Automatic Pay Adjustments for Members of Congress: Senate passed S. 620, to repeal the provision of law that provides automatic pay adjustments for Members of Congress. **Page S3149**

Extension of Programs for Small Businesses: Senate passed H.R. 1541, to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, clearing the measure for the President. **Page S3318**

Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act: Senate passed S. 303, to reauthorize and improve the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999. **Pages S3318–19**

Authorizing Use of Capitol Grounds: Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of H. Con. Res. 39, authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the District of Columbia Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run, and the resolution was then agreed to. **Page S3319**

Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 8, providing for the appointment of David M. Rubenstein as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, and the resolution was then passed. **Pages S3319–20**

Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Committee on Rules and Administration was discharged from further consideration of S.J. Res. 9, providing for the appointment of France A. Cordova as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, and the resolution was then passed. **Page S3320**

Measures Considered:

Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act: Senate began consideration of H.R. 146, to establish a battlefield acquisition grant program for the acquisition and protection of nationally significant battlefields and associated sites of the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812, after agreeing to the motion to proceed to consideration thereto, and taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S3130–41, S3141–49, S3149–56**

Pending:

Bingaman Amendment No. 684, in the nature of a substitute. **Pages S3141–49, S3149–56**

Coburn Amendment No. 680 (to Amendment No. 684), to ensure that the general public has full access to our national parks and to promote the health and safety of all visitors and employees of the National Park Service. **Pages S3150–52**

Coburn Amendment No. 679 (to Amendment No. 684), to provide for the future energy needs of the United States and eliminate restrictions on the development of renewable energy. **Pages S3152–54**

Coburn Amendment No. 675 (to Amendment No. 684), to prohibit the use of eminent domain and to ensure that no American has their property forcibly taken from them by authorities granted under this Act. **Page S3154**

A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that the following list of amendments be the only first-degree amendments in order; that upon disposition of the listed amendments, the substitute amendment, as amended, if amended, be agreed to, and Senate vote on passage of the bill, with passage of the bill subject to a 60-affirmative vote threshold; provided debate time prior to a vote on or in relation to each amendment, be limited to 60 minutes, and that no amendment be in order to any amendment prior to a vote on or in relation thereto; provided if there is a sequence of votes on or in relation to the amendments, then prior to each vote in a sequence, there be 4 minutes of debate, divided as specified above, provided that after the first vote in any sequence, subsequent votes be limited to 10 minutes each: Coburn Amendment No. 680 (listed

above); Coburn Amendment No. 679 (listed above); Coburn Amendment No. 683, relative to striking targeted provisions; Coburn Amendment No. 675 (listed above); Coburn Amendment No. 677, relative to annual report; and Coburn Amendment No. 682, relative to Subtitle D clarification. **Pages S3140–41**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill on Wednesday, March 18, 2009, following executive session. **Page S3320**

Message from the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to the provisions of section 1512 of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105–261), certification that the export of fine grain graphite to be used for solar cell applications and for the fabrication of components used in electronic and semiconductor fabrication is not detrimental to the U.S. space launch industry, and that the material and equipment will not measurably improve the missile or space launch capabilities of the People's Republic of China; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. (PM–13) **Page S3161**

Kirk Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent-time agreement was reached providing that at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 18, 2009, Senate begin consideration of the nomination of Ronald Kirk, of Texas, to be United States Trade Representative, and that there be up to 90 minutes of debate with respect to the nomination, with the time divided as follows: 30 minutes under the control of the Majority, and 60 minutes under the control of the Republicans, and that Senate vote on confirmation of the nomination at a time to be determined by the Majority Leader, following consultation with the Republican Leader. **Page S3318**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nominations:

David F. Hamilton, of Indiana, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Seventh Circuit.

Kathleen Sebelius, of Kansas, to be Secretary of Health and Human Services.

William V. Corr, of Virginia, to be Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services.

Demetrios J. Marantis, of the District of Columbia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador.

Rose Eilene Gottemoeller, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of State (Verification and Compliance).

William Craig Fugate, of Florida, to be Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security.

Routine lists in the Air Force, Army, and Coast Guard. **Page S3320**

Nomination Withdrawn: Senate received notification of withdrawal of the following nomination:

Demetrios J. Marantis, of the District of Columbia, to be a Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador, which was sent to the Senate on March 16, 2009. **Page S3321**

Messages from the House: **Page S3161**

Measures Referred: **Page S3161**

Executive Communications: **Pages S3161–62**

Executive Reports of Committees: **Pages S3162–63**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S3163–64**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S3164–88**

Additional Statements: **Pages S3160–61**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S3188–S3317**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Page S3317**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S3317–18**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:39 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2009. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S3320.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

SOUTHERN, NORTHERN, AFRICA, AND TRANSPORTATION COMMANDS

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine United States Southern Command, United States Northern Command, United States Africa Command, and United States Transportation Command, after receiving testimony from Admiral James G. Stavridis, USN, Commander, United States Southern Command; General Victor E. Renuart, Jr., USAF, Commander, United States Northern Command and North American Aerospace Defense Command; General William E. Ward, USA, Commander, United States Africa Command; and General Duncan J. McNabb, USAF, United States Transportation Command.

INSURANCE REGULATION

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine perspectives on modernizing insurance regulation, after receiving testimony from Michael T. McRaith, Illinois